

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

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<u>UPDATE: Change in 2nd graf, parents of victims spoke, not the victims.</u>
Also deletes Glendale from last graf.

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Youth soccer coach sentenced to 225 years for child molestation

LOS ANGELES – A youth soccer coach convicted in February of molesting six boys in 2010 and 2011 was sentenced today to 225 years to life in prison.

Deputy District Attorney Rachel Greene of the Sex Crimes Division said the parents of three of Jose Duarte's victims read statements and one spoke before Judge Henry Hall, who then pronounced the sentence. At the time the molestations occurred, the victims were between the ages of 11 and 14.

One parent told the judge that learning of the molestation "destroyed our family."

A jury on Feb. 14 deliberated less than a day before finding the 44-year-old Duarte guilty of 20 counts of child molestation and five counts of sending harmful material. The crimes occurred primarily at the defendant's Los Angeles residence. He showed pornography to the victims before molesting them, authorities said.

Los Angeles police arrested Duarte on June 27, 2011, after investigating allegations of molestation against boys on a youth soccer team. Duarte coached a youth team called USA that practiced and played at various fields in Los Angeles.